



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New Orleans District

Biography

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Colonel Richard P. Wagenaar

Col. Richard P. Wagenaar, New Orleans District's 59th commander and district engineer, took command July 12, 2005. As district engineer, Wagenaar is responsible for a **\$400-million** civil works program in south central and coastal Louisiana.

The New Orleans District's jurisdiction includes 2,800 miles of navigable waterways, 1,300 miles of levees and floodwalls, 12 navigation locks, six major flood control structures, and other projects to create and protect coastal wetlands. Wagenaar also serves as chairman of the federal-state Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act Task Force, which oversees a \$60-million annual program to protect and restore Louisiana's coastal wetlands.

Wagenaar's most recent military assignment was with Headquarters, Republic of Korea Combined Forces Command, where he served as the chief of Engineer Plans Division. His key duties while in Korea included the development and coordination of operational war plans, and the execution of studies that would support those plans.

Wagenaar served as the military assistant at the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) at the Pentagon, Washington D.C., from August 2002 to June 2003. Prior to this, he was the commander of the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, from July 2000 to July 2002.

Other previous assignments in engineer staff and command positions were at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' New England Division, Waltham, Mass.; 44th Engineer Battalion in Yongsan, Korea; 194th Armored Brigade at Fort Knox, Ky.; Combat Maneuver Training Center – 7th Army in Hohenfels, Germany; and 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, N.Y. He has also served as an active duty advisor to the Army National Guard's 34th Infantry Division, Fort Snelling, Minn.; and as a Reserve Officer Training Corps assistant professor of military science at the University of Virginia.

Wagenaar is an ROTC graduate from New Mexico Military Institute where he earned an associate's degree in biology. He attended Syracuse University in New York, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in environmental science and forestry. He earned a master science degree in management from Cardinal Stritch College, Milwaukee, Wis., and a second master's degree in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University, Washington, D.C. His professional military education includes Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Army Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms Services Staff School, and Engineer Officer Advanced and Basic courses.

His awards and decorations include eight Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, two Overseas Service Ribbons, two National Defense Service Medals, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Army Reserve Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and the Parachutist Badge.

Wagenaar, a native of Carthage, N.Y., is married to the former Heather Turner. They have two children: Chelsea and Hunter.